

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/624,152

Examiner

Amy J. Sterling

Applicant(s)

FUELLING ET AL.

Art Unit

3632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/18/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Notice of Allowance

This is the Notice of Allowance for application number 10/624,152 Modular Accessory Holder, filed on 7/21/03. Claims 1-3 are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

In claim 1, line 35, after "wall of the slot" and before "and wherein the weight", such that the first step and the second step together prevent the tang from being wedged into the tapered slot has been added.

Claims 4-10 are cancelled.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Wiley Horton on 11/14/06.

Reasons for Allowance

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The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

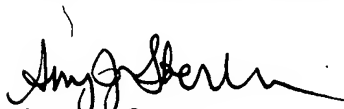
The prior art of record does not teach such that the first step and the second step together prevent the tang from being wedged into the tapered slot so that the device does not become fused together during use in a moist climate of the device, in combination with a receiver, fixedly attached to the fixed point, wherein the receiver has a top surface, a slot opening in the top surface and descending downward therefrom, having an upper portion and a lower portion, wherein the slot is bounded by a back wall, a front wall, a first side wall, and a second side wall, wherein the first and second side walls of the slot taper toward each other so that the upper portion of the slot is wider than the lower portion of the slot, and a modular mount, including attachment means for fixedly attaching one of the variety of objects to the modular mount, a plate with a tang descending from the plate, a first step proximate a junction between the tang and the plate, a second step proximate the junction between the tang and the plate, wherein the tang has a back wall, a front wall, a first side wall, and a second side wall, and wherein the first and second side walls of the tang taper toward each other wherein the first side wall of the tang is oriented such that when the tang is inserted into the slot the first side wall of the tang will be parallel to the first side wall of the slot, wherein the second side wall of the tang is oriented such that when the tang is inserted into the slot the second side wall of the tang will be parallel to the second side wall of the slot; wherein the first step is positioned to bear against the top surface while maintaining a small clearance between the first side wall of the tang and the first side wall of the slot, wherein the second step is positioned to bear against the top surface while maintaining

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a small clearance between the second side wall of the tang and the second side wall of the slot; and wherein the weight of the modular mount will tend to retain the tang in the slot.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance." Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Amy J. Sterling at telephone number 571-272-6823. The fax machine number for the Technology center is 571-273-8300 (formal amendments) or 571-273-6823 (informal amendments/communications). Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist at 571-272-3600.


Amy J. Sterling
Primary Examiner
11/9/06